GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3732
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017
Child Care
Parthipan Shri R.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any effective mechanism to reduce child under nutrition in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several emerging economies across the world have successfully addressed their child under nutritional challenge;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has age appropriate foods for children from six months to two years of age;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government is promoting safe and hygienic complementary feeding practices;

(h) if so, the details thereof;

(i) whether the full immunization and bi-annual Vitamin A supplementation with deworming are successfully progressing; and

(j) if so, the details thereof with State-wise details?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) & (b): The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of undernutrition in children and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through
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State Governments/UT Administrations to address several aspects related to nutrition which include;

â€¢ Supplementary Nutrition in the form of hot-cooked meals and take-home ration provided to children aged 6 months to 6 years under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Growth monitoring of children aged 0-5 years on a monthly basis at Anganwadi Centres
â€¢ Mid-day meal for all students under the Government and Government aided schools
â€¢ Village Health and Nutrition Days and Mother and Child Protection Card are the joint initiative of the Ministry of Health & Family welfare and the Ministry of Woman and Child Development for addressing the nutrition concerns in children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Monthly Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHND) are monthly days held at village level in Anganwadi centre to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breastfeeding.
â€¢ Promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices that include early initiation of breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding till 6 months of age through ASHA worker, Aanganwadi Worker and health care provider at health facilities.Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently launched "MAA" programme to provide impetus on capacity building of the health workers on lactation management at both community and facility levels and 360 degree IEC campaign to create awareness regarding breastfeeding.
â€¢ Treatment of sick children with severe acute malnutrition at special units called the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), set up at public health facilities. Presently 965 such centres are functional in 26 States and UTs.
â€¢ Micronutrient supplementation like Vitamin A and Iron Folic Acid (IFA) for children aged 6 months to 5 years and Promotion for intake of iodised salt.
â€¢ De-worming of children aged 1-19 years
(c) & (d): As per the Global Nutrition Report 2015, among the emerging economies, China
and Brazil are on-course of achieving the Global target for stunting.

(e) & (f): For children in the age group of 6 months to 3 years, nutritional supplement

providing 500 Kcal energy and 12-15 g protein is provided as Take Home Ration in the form that is palatable to the child as part of the ICDS.

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(g) & (h): The National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding, 2006 issued by MWCD& National Guidelines for enhancing optimal Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, 2013 issued by MoHFW, emphasises and guides the States/UTs on the importance of appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices along with provision safe and hygienic complementary feeding.

(i) & (j): The full immunization coverage in the country is successfully progressing and has improved from 43.5% in 2005 to 62% in 2015 as per NFHS. The vitamin-A coverage in the country is also successfully progressing from 18.3% in 2005-06 to 60.2% in 2015-16 as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-3 and 4) The State-wise details of Vitamin-A supplementation coverage and immunization coverage during 2015-16 is given at annexure-1.
The deworming coverage in NDD 2015 was 8.9 crore children across 11 states/UTs and in 2016, the program was scaled up to all States/UTs covering 24 crore children in 1-19 years of age group. The state wise details are given at annexure-2.
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